



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 321

January Session, 2017

Substitute House Bill No. 7053

House of Representatives, March 30, 2017

The Committee on Higher Education and Employment Advancement reported through REP. HADDAD of the 54th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 10a-173 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*
3 *1, 2017*):

4 (b) The state, acting through the Office of Higher Education, shall
5 establish the Governor's Scholarship program to annually make need-
6 based financial aid available for eligible educational costs for
7 Connecticut residents enrolled at Connecticut's public and
8 independent institutions of higher education as full-time or part-time
9 undergraduate students beginning with new or transfer students in the
10 fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. On and after July 1, 2016, said
11 program shall be known as the "Roberta B. Willis Scholarship
12 program". Any award made to a student in the fiscal year ending June
13 30, 2013, under the capitol scholarship grant program, established

14 under section 10a-169 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised
15 to January 1, 2013, the Connecticut aid to public college students grant
16 program, established under section 10a-164a of the general statutes,
17 revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, Connecticut aid to Charter
18 Oak, established under subsection (c) of section 10a-164a of the general
19 statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1, 2013, or the Connecticut
20 independent college student grant program, established under section
21 10a-36 of the general statutes, revision of 1958, revised to January 1,
22 2013, shall be offered under the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program
23 and be renewable for the life of the original award, provided such
24 student meets and continues to meet the need and academic standards
25 established for purposes of the program under which such student
26 received the original award. For purposes of administering the
27 scholarship, the Office of Higher Education may solicit and accept for
28 use any gift of money or property made by will or otherwise, and any
29 grant of money, services or property from the federal government, the
30 state or any political subdivision thereof or any private source, and do
31 all things necessary to cooperate with the federal government or any of
32 its agencies in making an application for any grant.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2017	10a-173(b)
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HED *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 18 \$	FY 19 \$
Higher Ed., Off.	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Indeterminate	Indeterminate

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill could result in a potential revenue gain to the Office of Higher Education (OHE), specifically to the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program. The bill allows OHE to solicit and accept gifts and donations from any public or private source to help fund the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program. The potential revenue gain is indeterminate as it is dependent on the number and amount of gifts and donations received.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the amount of gifts and donations that are received.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 7053*****AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE GOVERNOR'S BUDGET
RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING HIGHER EDUCATION.*****SUMMARY**

This bill authorizes the Office of Higher Education (OHE) to solicit and accept gifts and donations from any public or private source to help fund the Roberta B. Willis Scholarship program, the state's financial aid program for Connecticut residents who attend a public or independent higher education institution in the state.

For purposes of administering the program, the OHE may:

1. solicit and accept for use any (a) gift of money or property made by will or other means and (b) grant of money, services, or property from the federal government, the state, any town, state political subdivision, or any private source, and
2. do things needed to cooperate with the federal government agencies in making an application for a grant.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2017

COMMITTEE ACTION

Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0 (03/15/2017)